

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-19 (Cancelled).

20. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting the healing of a wound or fibrotic disorder with reduced macroscopic scarring comprising administering to a subject in need thereof ~~an amount of Activin sufficient to promote said healing~~ up to about 5 ng of Activin per centimeter of said wound or fibrotic disorder so that said healing with reduced macroscopic scarring is promoted.

21.-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claims 20 ~~22~~ wherein ~~a the~~ stimulator of Activin is administered that comprises a partially modified form of ~~activin~~ Activin having a longer half-life than its parent molecule.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~20 or 21~~ 20 wherein Activin is administered in conjunction with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or excipient.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20 ~~or 21~~ wherein Activin is used in conjunction with a further agent that promotes the reduction of scarring.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20 ~~or 21~~ wherein Activin is used in conjunction with a further agent that promotes the healing of chronic wounds.

28.-30. (Cancelled).

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 20 wherein the for promoting the healing of a wound or fibrotic disorder with reduced scarring comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an amount of Activin administered is sufficient to bind receptors similar to those bound by TGF- β_3 , thereby reducing scarring, so that said healing with reduced scarring is promoted.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20 wherein said wound or fibrotic disorder is a corneal wound and wherein Activin is administered by ~~intradermal injection~~ ~~or~~ eye drops.

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20 wherein Activin is present in a bandage or implant ~~that provides said amount sufficient to promote healing.~~

34. (New) The method according to claim 20 wherein Activin is administered by intradermal injection.

35. (New) The method according to claim 20 wherein 2.5 ng to up to about 5 ng of Activin per centimeter of said wound or fibrotic disorder is administered.